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Research, Development and Production Review Board
Ideas and Requirements Panel

I. Meeting #8 was held in the OC Conference Room at 1430 hours on 15 August 1956. Those present were:

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II. The following items were discussed:

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1. presented a paper entitled "Secret Communications by The Board considered his proposal and agreed that it appeared to have some merit. It was decided that the Research and Development Laboratory would explore the various avenues of approach to this type of a communications system and carry the investigation of this suggestion through a breadboard model that could be demonstrated to the Board. The Board further expressed its appreciation to Mr. for his suggestion.

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2. informed the Board that he was the Office of Communications representative on the Incentive Awards Board and as such frequently had ideas referred to him for review as to their feasibility, and that he believed that the Office of Communications Ideas and Requirements Panel of the Research and Development Board could be of assistance to him in making decisions regarding these ideas. It was agreed that in any case that he desired to refer to the Panel for consideration, the Panel would be happy to so do.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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[redacted] stated that he presently had such a problem and he requested the Panel's consideration of the problem. The suggestion which was placed before the Panel was aimed at reducing the time of transmission of pouched materials to the field and reducing the cost of courier services. The idea as expressed was to provide a facsimile scanning unit, an electronic encryption unit and a printing device. Utilizing this system, a classified document could be inserted in the equipment where it would be automatically scanned, encrypted and a printed copy of the encrypted material prepared. All of this process could be done automatically without necessity for utilizing a trained cryptographer. This encrypted document could then be sent via surface or air mail to the field station where similar equipment could be utilized for decrypting and printing out a clear text copy of the information. After considerable discussion as to the technical feasibility and the reliability of mail service in foreign areas, the following decisions were made:

a. That the problem of handling classified material in a more economical and faster means than the present pouch system is a CIA problem.

b. That the suggestion should be reviewed by the Chief of RI for his determination that there is a requirement for this or a similar system.

c. That if desired, the Research and Development Board will consider appropriate further action (this further action to be a feasible study which will require funding from other than Office of Communications funds).

d. That the Incentive Awards Board should make this suggestion available to other Government agencies.

III. The meeting adjourned at 1600 hours. 25X1

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Distribution:

[redacted]
RD&PRB Members and those in attendance
R&D Lab
R&D/EP

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